

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Norman W. Gavin

Attorney Docket No. GNW431

For: SEPTIC SYSTEM BOX PIPE SEAL

Mail Stop: Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(37 CFR 1.97, 1.98)

A preliminary search was made through patented art which included Class/subclasses 285/139.1, 139.2, 200, 206; 277/606, 616. No art was found which describes or discloses the invention.

In the spirit of full disclosure, applicant provides herewith copies of patents for review by the Examiner, which were provided by the searcher for our consideration. None are deemed by applicant to suggest the invention. The art is listed below and on form PTO /SB/08a.

U. S. P. N. 3,195,932 L. C. Morton, entitled TUBULAR MEMBER FOR FLEXIBLE WALL JOINT, patented July 20, 1965 discloses an externally threaded tubular member having a lower radial shoulder presenting an axially facing annular surface that receives a first washer (lower washer 22) that slides down the tubular portion to the lower radial shoulder. The tubular member extends through an opening in a rubber mattress resilient wall to the first washer. A second washer (upper washer 24) that slides down the tubular portion to the rubber mattress wall

is pressed by a nut (26) toward the first washer so that the mattress wall is pinched between axially aligned opposed ridges (28, 29) on facing surfaces of the first and second washers which maintain their parallel relationship. A sealing washer is included between the first washer and the axially facing annular surface of the lower radial shoulder. The interior of the tubular member is open through the ends, and is internally threaded and contoured for receipt of an outside threaded check valve.

Morton's disclosed slidable lower and upper parallel washers having opposed pinching portions, and opening threaded and contoured for receiving a check valve is different from the invention..

U. S. P. N. 3,749,424 N.Greene, entitled WATER CONDUIT CONNECTOR, patented July 31, 1973 discloses a cylindrical tubular body (12) screw threaded along its entire exterior surface except for an annual radial collar (22) that extends from the body spaced from one end of the body. The interior of the cylindrical tubular body is smooth wall and partly threaded for screw and glue receipt of a water conduit (28). A nut (14) having concentric raised ridges (32, 34) on an annular axially facing surface that is parallel to an annular axially facing first surface of the collar is screwed toward the collar, clamping the metal wall of the pool between the nut and the collar. The opposite annular axially facing second surface of the radial collar is parallel to the first surface, normal to the axis of the tubular body, smooth and receives the flexible liner of the pool which is clamped to the second surface by a slide on washer (16) having spaced apart annular ridges joined by a plurality of radial ridges on a surface parallel to the second surface, pressed to the liner by a nut (18) having concentric radial ridges.

Greene's cylindrical tubular body threaded along its entire surface and radially extending collar having parallel smooth faces normal to the axis of the body, slide on washer and nut fixed parallel faces is different from the invention.

U. S. P. N. 4,234,218 A. G. Rogers entitled FEEDTHROUGH DEVICE patented November 18, 1980 discloses a tubular member (20) having a heat shrinkable portion (24), an integrally formed tubular snub nose arrow head (20) which is pushed through a hole in a wall member or bulkhead that is smaller than the inwardly deformable shoulder (22) of the arrowhead so that the shoulder snaps outward over the front of the wall, parallel to the wall after the arrow head is pushed through the hole. An integrally formed deformable annular flange (23) stands adjacent to the back of the wall. An outwardly projecting nut is screwed along external threads on tubular member (20) until a forward projecting annular portion of the nut presses the flange (23) against the back of the wall forming the seal with the wall which is enhanced with adhesive between the flange (23) and the back of the wall.

Roger's snap-through arrow head parallel to the front of the wall, and resiliently integrally formed annular flange seal pressed against the back of the wall by the nut, is different from the invention.

U. S. P. N. 5,129,684 J. L. Lawrence et al. entitled SEALED BULKHEAD FITTING patented July 14, 1992 discloses an elastomeric cylinder having a reduced diameter (16) at a back end for receiving a hose clamp for sealing the cylinder around a conduit (32). The front end of the cylinder is formed in a radially extending flange (12) having an annular axially rearward facing surface (13) normal to the axis of the cylinder for fluid tight sealing against a front surface of a wall (36) through which the cylinder extends. An outwardly threaded rigid (24) tubular sleeve (14) extends over the cylinder from the back of the cylinder adjacent to the reduced diameter to the front of the cylinder where the front of rigid sleeve (14) forms a radially outward flange anchor (28) that is molded into flange 12 of the elastomeric cylinder. A nut (38) made of rigid material like the threaded rigid sleeve, is screwed on the thread and has a flat face parallel to face 13, that presses on the back of the wall. When the wall is curved, face 13 is curved (as in Fig. 4) to fit the front of the wall, and an elastomeric washer having a front wall curved to fit the back of the wall is slipped on the threaded rigid tubular sleeve and clamped by the nut.

Lawrence's rigid threaded cylinder flanged anchor supporting a nut having a first surface clamping a wall against a parallel elastomer surface covering a rigid radially outward flanged anchor end of the threaded cylinder, and sealing on a pipe by way of a pipe clamp on an end of the device is different from the invention.

U. S. P. N. 5,456,499 C. Sharpe entitled HULL FITTING patented October 10, 1995 discloses a brass, steel or other metal two piece fitting having a conduit for fluid flow directing (12) with an annular sealing surface on an internally threaded end of the conduit which fits against the back side of a wall or bulkhead, surrounding a hole through the wall; and a cylindrical retainer conduit internally formed for receiving a screwing tool through the front of the cylinder, having an outer threaded portion that passes through the hole in the wall and screws into the internally threaded conduit, and an annular flange on the front of the cylinder, the lower surface of the flange is slightly concave for partial abutment against the front of the wall and for receiving a sealing compound between the flange and the wall .

Sharpe's disclosure of a brass or steel rigid fitting consisting of a conduit shaped for fluid directing with internally threaded front end flattened for sealing against the back side of a wall around a hole, receiving an externally threaded cylinder internally formed for receiving a screwing tool through the front of the cylinder with an annular inflexible flange having a concave portion facing the front of the wall for receiving a sealing compound is different from the invention.

The rest of the patents are further afield in the art from the present invention and are provided without further comment.

U.S. Patent Documents:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Patent date</u>	<u>Inventor/Title of Patent</u>
3,531,142	09/29/1970	J. A. Peasley/TANK FITTING

4,332,393 06/01/1982 C. Cuschera/SELF CONTAINED SEAL FOR DRAINS
4,613,169 09/23/1986 J. Engelhart/SPA FITTING SEALING SYSTEM
5,967,567 10/19/1999 D. P. Nordstrom/MATINGLY ENGAGED FLEXIBLE ENTRY BOOT
5,971,444 10/26/1999 B. C. Hawkins/THROUGH WALL CONNECTOR
4,805,920 02/21/1989 N. W. Gavin/PIPE SEAL AND CLOSURE MEMBER
5,882,014 03/16/1999 N. W. Gavin/REMOVABLE SECTION PIPE SEAL FOR SEPTIC
SYSTEMS

Respectfully submitted,

 *October 2, 2003*
Robert A. Seemann date

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Norman W. Gavin

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

GNW431

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Also See IDS Letter

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,195,932	07-20-1965	L. C. Morton	Col. 2, lines 56-72, & Figs. 1, 2
		US- 3,749,424	07-31-1973	N. Greene	Col. 2 line 37-Col. 3, l. 2; Col. 3, l. 29-41; Figs. 1, 2
		US- 4,234,218	11-18-1980	A. G. Rogers	Col. 4, l. 62-Col. 5, l. 37, & Fig. 3
		US- 5,129,684	07-14-1992	Lawrence et al.	Col. 2, l. 61-Col. 3, l. 62 & Figs. 1-4
		US- 5,456,499	10-10-1995	C. Sharpe	Col. 2, l. 40-Col. 3, l. 20, & Figs. 1, 2
		US- 3,531,142	09-24-1970	J. A. Peasley	
		US- 4,332,393	06-01-1982	C. Cudde	
		US- 4,613,169	09-23-1986	J. Eng. hart	
		US- 5,967,567	10-19-1999	D. P. Nordstrom	
		US- 5,971,444	10-26-1999	B. C. Hawking	
		US- 5,882,014	03-16-1999	N. W. Gavin	
		US- 4,805,920	02-21-1989	N. W. Gavin	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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